WC 44120 DARTFORD

Borough of Dartford.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1933.

T. FARTHING,
Medical Officer of Health.

E. & S.—75/6/34—19736 M.O.H.

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BOROUGH OF DARTFORD.

Annual Report for 1933 *of the Medical Officer of Health.*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
DARTFORD,
27th April, 1934.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF DARTFORD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my report as Medical Officer of Health for the year **1933.**

The Report is arranged in accordance with the instructions of the Minister of Health and is an Ordinary Report as contrasted with the Survey Reports required at intervals of five years.

I should like to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their cordial support during the year and also to the Staff of the Public Health Department for their co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS FARTHING,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

*DR. T. FARTHING, M.B. (Edin.)—Medical Officer of Health (part time); also Medical Officer, Dartford Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital, Dartford.

*DR. MARIE L. P. CRAWFORD, M.B., B.S., (Lond.) L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.—Medical Officer of Child Welfare Clinics, also late Assistant Medical Officer, Alexandra Hospital, Swanley.

*W. E. BALCHIN, A.R.S.I.—Sanitary Inspector (Certified as Sanitary Inspector and as Meat and other Food Inspector); also Inspector under the Shops, Petroleum, and Hackney Carriage Acts.

C. H. SARGENT, Assistant Sanitary Inspector (Certified as Sanitary Inspector and as Meat and other Food Inspector).
(Appointed 11th December, 1933; previously General Assistant).

*MISS A. A. BRIMBLE.—Health Visitor (R.S.I.), 3 years Trained Nurse, C.M.B.

*MISS E. NEALE.—Health Visitor (R.S.I.), S.R.N., C.M.B.

MISS E. SORRELL.—Clerk to Department.

* Contribution to salary by Exchequer Grant.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	4,240
Population (Registrar-General's estimated figure Mid-1933) ...	30,210
Population (Census, 1931)	28,928
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1933) according to Rate Books	7,216
Rateable Value	£209,519
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£825

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The Borough of Dartford is situate in the lower portion of the Darenth Valley, and the rising ground to the East and West of the river. The area of the district is 4,242 statute acres.

The district is chiefly an industrial one, but there is a residential area at the west end of the town, in the neighbourhood of The Heath. This is attracting a growing number of residents whose business is outside the Borough.

There is in addition to the ordinary population a large institutional population as the following institutions are situate in the District :—

London County Council Hospitals, Joyce Green, Orchard and Long Reach.
London County Mental Hospital.
Kent County Council, King Edward Avenue Hospital.
St. Vincent's Industrial School.

STAPLE INDUSTRIES.

The principal industries of the district are :—

Engineering.
Paper Making.
Manufacture of Drugs and Chemicals.
Tanning.
Silk Printing.
Flour Milling.

There are no industries in the district which have a prejudicial effect on health.

OPEN SPACES.

The District is well provided with open spaces for pleasure and recreation which include :—

Dartford Heath .....340 acres.
Central Park ..... 29 acres.
Hesketh Park ..... 10 acres.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1933.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Births—Legitimate	212	197	409
,, Illegitimate	11	8	19

Total Births 428. Birth Rate, 14.16.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for the same period is 14.4.
12 still births occurred during the year. Rate per 1,000 total births, 28.03.

	Males.	Females	Total.
Deaths	146	137	283

Death Rate, 9.36.

The Death Rate for England and Wales for the year is 12.3.
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Child Birth—From Sepsis None
,, Other Causes None

INFANTILE MORTALITY 1933.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age: Legitimate 16: Illegitimate 2; Total 18.

Death Rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births, 42.05.
Legitimate, 39.11. Illegitimate, 105.26.

The Infantile Death Rate for **1933** is **42.05**, as compared with **50.2** for the previous year, and 37.29 for 1931.

The Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales for 1933 is 64.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	None
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	4

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes Certified	8	1	....	1	10	3	2	2	1	18
Uncertified	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Whooping-cough	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Erysipelas	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Meningitis(not tuberculous)	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
Convulsions	1	1	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	2
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Pneumonia (all forms)	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	....	1
Enteritis	....	....	....	1	1	2	1	....	....	4
Congenital malformation	2	....	....	....	2	....	....	....	....	2
Premature Birth	4	....	....	....	4	....	....	....	....	4
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	....	....	....	....	....	1	....	1	....	2
Other Causes	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	1	....	2
Totals	8	1	....	1	10	3	2	2	1	18

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEARS 1932-1933.

	Causes of Death.	1932. Males.	1932. Females.	1933. Males.	1933. Females
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...
2.	Small Pox	...	...	...	...
3.	Measles.	4	1	...	...
4.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...
5.	Whooping Cough.	2	1	...	2
6.	Diphtheria.	...	...	...	1
7.	Influenza.	2	7	1	2
8.	Encephalitis lethargica.	1	...	1	...
9.	Cerebro-spinal fever.	1	...	...	...
10.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system.	14	8	12	10
11.	Other tuberculosis diseases.	2	1	2	...
12.	Syphilis.	...	...	1	2
13.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis.	1	...	2	...
14.	Cancer, malignant disease.	24	25	14	19
15.	Diabetes.	1	4	...	7
16.	Cerebral haemorrhage, &c.	3	2	9	8
17.	Heart disease.	40	29	47	48
18.	Aneurysm.	2	...	1	...
19.	Other circulatory diseases.	5	6	4	5
20.	Bronchitis.	4	7	3	3
21.	Pneumonia (all forms).	9	7	11	7
22.	Other respiratory diseases.	...	1	3	...
23.	Peptic ulcer.	2	...	3	...
24.	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years).	2	1	1	3
25.	Appendicitis.	...	1	...	...
26.	Cirrhosis of liver.	1	...	...	...
27.	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...
28.	Other digestive diseases.	2	2	1	4
29.	Acute and chronic nephritis.	1	3	1	2
30.	Puerperal sepsis.	...	...	...	...
31.	Other puerperal causes.	...	1	...	...
32.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	8	3	8	2
33.	Senility.	...	3	1	4
34.	Suicide.	4	...	3	...
35.	Other violence.	4	3	4	...
36.	Other defined diseases.	...	12	13	8
37.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...
	Totals	155	128	146	137

SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS, 1929—1933.

	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933
Population (Registrar General's estimated figure).	27,660	27,660 (1929)	29,290	29,260	30,210
Births	425	423	429	458	428
Birth Rate	15.36	15.29	14.64	15.65	14.16
Still-births	13	10	8	7	12
Birth Rate (England & Wales).	16.3	16.3	15.8	15.3	14.4
Deaths	311	227	246	283	283
Death Rate	11.24	8.206	8.39	9.6	9.36
Death Rate (England & Wales)	13.4	11.4	12.3	11.8	12.3
Deaths of infants under 1 year	28	15	16	23	18
Infantile Death Rate	65.88	35.46	37.29	50.2	42.05
Infantile Death Rate (England & Wales).	74	60	66	65	64

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

(*A*) HOME NURSING.

The Dartford District Nursing Association, supported by voluntary contributions, maintains three District Nurses.

The Council make a grant to this Association and in return the services of the Nurses are available for the home nursing of cases of Measles, Whooping Cough and cases referred by the Child Welfare Clinic.

(*B*) MIDWIVES.

There are six midwives practising in the Borough, all whom act as workers at the Child Welfare Clinic. I am glad to report that their interest and attendance is very good.

(*C*) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following are the Clinics and treatment centres in the town :—

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Market Street	Maintained by the Council
School Clinic, Kent Road	Maintained by the Kent County Council.
Tuberculosis Clinic, Overy Street	
Venereal Clinic, King Edward Avenue Hospital	

(*D*) HOSPITAL SERVICES.

1. King Edward Avenue Hospital, West Hill, for General Purposes, under the management of Kent County Council (Public Assistance Committee), available for persons resident in the area under the control of the Public Assistance Committee and by private patients from the same area.

2. Livingstone Hospital, East Hill, for General Purposes, supported by Voluntary Contributions under the management of a voluntary committee, available for persons resident in the Dartford Borough and Dartford Rural Districts.

The alterations begun in 1932 were completed at the beginning of 1933 and these provided a Maternity Home of 7 beds and an Electro-therapeutic department.

3. Bow Arrow Isolation Hospital, Bow Arrow Lane (for Infectious Diseases) under the management of the Joint Hospital Committee, available for persons resident in Dartford Borough, Dartford Rural District, Bexley Urban District, Crayford Urban District, Swanscombe Urban District. Cases of Small Pox are admitted into the London County Council Small Pox Hospital, Joyce Green.

(*E*) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(*i*). Infectious Cases.—The Dartford Joint Hospital Committee maintain two ambulances for the removal of cases of infectious disease from their homes to the hospital.

(*ii*). General Cases.—The local division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade continues to do very useful work. They maintain a motor ambulance

which is available for accidents and the removal of sick persons to local or London hospitals.

During the year 1933, the following cases were dealt with by this ambulance :—

Accidents	101
Sick removals to local hospitals	289
Sick removals to London hospitals and other places	73

The charges made for the use of the ambulance are as follows :—

To local hospitals 5/-

To London hospitals and other removals outside the District 9d. per mile (both journeys) with special terms for distances over 100 miles.

There is also a scheme whereby subscribers of a minimum of 1/- per year are entitled to the free use of the ambulance for removals to local hospitals, etc. and at 6d. per mile for longer journeys.

The Ambulance of the Kent County Council Public Assistance Committee is also available, on payment of the scale of charges fixed by the Council, for the removal of patients within and outside the District.

LABORATORY WORK.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The work is carried out at the Kent County Council Laboratory, Sessions House, Maidstone.

During the year the following specimens were submitted for diagnosis :—

Diphtheria swabs	121
Tuberculosis sputa	169
Typhoid, including Widal test	2
Cerebro-spinal Fluid	2
Samples of Grade "A" (T.T.) Milk	11
Milk samples for Tuberculosis	4
Samples of Water from Swimming Baths	4

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. Parts II, III and V.
Adopted 2nd, January, 1891.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890
Adopted 7th February, 1902.

Notification of Births Act, 1907.
Adopted 2nd October, 1912.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.

Sections 18, 19, 21, 22, 26 and 33 in Part II	Adopted 2nd April, 1909
Sections 37, 48, 50 and 51 in Part III	
Sections 60, 62, 65 and 68 in Part IV	
Whole of Part V	
Whole of Part VI	
Sections 79, 80, 85 and 86 in Part VII	Adopted 19th March, 1909.
Section 90 in Part VIII	
Section 95 in Part X	Adopted 4th Jan., 1913

Public Health Act, 1925. Parts II, III, IV and V adopted 2nd December, 1925.

The Dartford Improvement Act, 1902, contains clauses relating to Drainage, Milk Supply and Infectious Diseases.

There are also in force in the Borough Bye-Laws regarding :—

Common Lodging Houses.
Houses Let in Lodgings.
Nuisances.
Offensive Trades.
Public Sanitary Conveniences.
Slaughterhouses.
Tents, Vans and Sheds.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

The District is supplied with water by the Metropolitan Water Board.

With the exception of a few isolated houses in the rural portions of the district, the whole of the houses are connected to the Metropolitan Water Board's mains.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

A case of pollution of the Dartford Creek by suction gas washings found during 1932, was finally dealt with by diversion of the effluent to the foul water sewer.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The district is, and has been for many years, main sewered, and the water carriage system is general. The sewage is dealt with by the West Kent Main Sewage Board (of which the Dartford Corporation is a constituent Authority) at their works at Long Reach, Dartford.

There are only 83 houses, situated in the more rural areas, which are not connected to the sewers. 98.8% of the houses in the district are connected to the sewers.

During the year one house previously cesspool drained has been connected to the public sewer.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The system is a water carriage one. In the more rural portions of the area, where main sewers are not available, there are the following houses with conveniences of the type mentioned :—

W.C.'s connected to cesspools	60
Pail Closets	21
Privies and earth closets	2

The cleansing of cesspools and pail closets is not carried out by the Local Authority but by the owners or occupiers of the premises.

SCAVENGING.

A collection of house refuse is made in the district weekly and in the central portion of the district, twice weekly.

The refuse is destroyed at the Corporation's destructor, with the exception of that produced at the Bexley Mental Hospital which is dealt with at a small destructor maintained by the Corporation at the Institution.

During the year 32 ash-bins have been provided in lieu of open brick ash-pits.

REFUSE TIPPING.

In March, 1933, a contractor for one of the Metropolitan Boroughs commenced tipping refuse in one of the sand pits near the Heath, but, on representations by the Council, tipping was discontinued and the deposited refuse properly covered.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

This is dealt with in the Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector which is appended hereto.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND BATHS.

The Corporation have provided and maintain the following :—

Public conveniences with wash and brush up facilities and slipper baths for both sexes at the Tram Centre.

Public Conveniences for both sexes at the Central and Hesketh Parks.

Public Conveniences for men near the Cattle Market.

Three Urinals at various parts of the Town.

Open air Swimming Baths in Burnham Road.

The Baths and Public Lavatories at the Tram Centre, which were opened in November, 1931, have continued to prove very useful both to the inhabitants and visitors to the town.

Increasing use has been made of the Slipper Baths as will be seen from the following comparative figures for 1932 and 1933 :—

	1932.	1933.		1932.	1933.
MALES: Men,	6,364	8,828	FEMALES: Women,	2,465	2,975
Boys,	304	321	Girls,	96	189

	1932	1933
TOTALS ...	9229	12313

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

There are two Central and nine Junior schools in the district. These are well lighted and ventilated, and the water supply and sanitary conditions are generally satisfactory.

HEALTH EDUCATION AND PROPAGANDA.

On February 24th, Lectures and Film Displays were given by the British Social Hygiene Council in conjunction with the Kent County Council and the Health Department on Venereal Disease. I am pleased to say that the Lectures were very well attended.

HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(*a*)	Total	520
	(*i*) By the Local Authority	112
	(*ii*) By other bodies and persons	408

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and the number of inspections made. Houses 284 Inspections	912
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and the number of inspections made.. Houses 82. Inspections	418
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	18
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses under paragraph 2 (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	63

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	231

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(*a*)	Proceedings under Sec. 17, 18, and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	22
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	(*a*) By owners	23
	(*b*) By local authority in default of Owners ...	None
(*b*)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(*a*) By owners	11
	(*b*) By local authority in default of owners ...	None
(*c*)	Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
	(1) Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
	(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders	9
	(3) Number of dwellings in respect of which " Undertaking by Owners to execute works " were accepted by the Council	2
	(4) Number of dwellings rendered fit after " Undertaking by Owners to execute works " had been accepted by the Council	None
	(5) Number of dwellings in respect of which undertaking not to use as a dwelling was accepted by the Council	5

(*d*) Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930

(1) Number of separate tenements of underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ... None

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room being rendered fit ... ... None

Work under the Housing Act, 1930, was commenced in 1930, and the following houses have been represented as unfit for human habitation under Section 19 :—

1930	.. ..	11 houses.
1931	.. ..	51 houses.
1932	.. ..	4 houses.
1933	.. ..	18 houses.

The following table shows the result of such action up to December 31st, 1933, with regard to the houses not completely dealt with in 1932, and those represented during 1933 :—

Premises.	No. of Houses	Date of Representation.	Action taken.	Remarks.
Bridge Court 3, 5, and 6.	3	30—12—30	Demolition Order made 1—4—31.	Demolished.
South Court Spital Street, 1 and 2.	2	30—12—30	Demolition Order made 1—4—31.	Demolished.
Victoria Road, 10—18.	5	28— 1—31	Demolition Order made 2—9—31.	Undertaking not to use as dwellings accepted 1—3—33
Hythe Street, 118 to 124	4	27— 4—32	Demolition Order made 3—8—32.	Demolished.
Overy Street, 7 and 9.	2	5— 7—33	Undertaking to execute works accepted 4—10—33.	
Manor Place 9.	1	2— 8—33	Demolition Order made 4—10—33.	
Hadlow Place, Lowfield Street 1 to 7.	7	9—11—33	Demolition Order made 12—3—34.	
Overy Street, 2 to 16.	8	27—12—33	Demolition Order made 12—2—34.	

In addition to the houses set out in the table, 64 houses have been inspected during the year under the Housing Act, and notices regarding repairs, etc., have been served with regard thereto.

The number of new houses completed during 1933 was 520, of which 112 were erected by the Council.

The following table shows the number of new houses built during the past nine years :—

	Built by Council.	Private Enterprise		Total
		Subsidy.	Non-Subsidy.	
1925	128	50	26	204
1926	94	45	50	189
1927	256	107	32	395
1928	56	81	31	168
1929	—	125	84	209
1930	14	—	266	280
1931	76	—	232	308
1932	181	—	170	351
1933	112	—	408	520
Totals ...	917	408	1299	2624

The development of the Heath Lane Housing Estate has continued during the year and a further 112 houses were built on this estate.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The taking of samples under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the Kent County Council, and the County Council being also the Authority under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts carries out the work under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, the following licences were in force during the year :—

Certified (supplementary dealers)		1
Grade A (T.T.)	Bottling and Dealers	3
	Dealers only	3
	Supplementary Dealers	1
Grade A.	Supplementary Dealers	1
Pasteurised.	Supplementary Dealers	2

Eleven samples of Graded milks were taken during the year.

The examination of Graded milks and other bacteriological work in connection with food is carried out by the Kent County Council at the County Bacteriological Laboratory.

No legal action has had to be taken under the Meat Regulations, 1924. There are two registered slaughterhouses in the district, and the notification of the times of slaughtering has been very satisfactory. 249 inspections have been made during the year.

The amount of food destroyed during the year was 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs., particulars of which are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SMALLPOX.

No cases of Small Pox were notified during the year. The disease has again been prevalent in London and Greater London during the year, and frequent notifications of contacts have been received and traced and the usual precautions taken.

DIPHTHERIA.

There were 26 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year (exclusive of cases notified from the various Institutions in the District) as compared with 12 in 1932. This is below the average of the previous ten years which is 42 per year. The cases were fairly evenly distributed throughout the year.

Contacts with cases notified, and also suspected children referred to the Department by the school teachers are swabbed with a view to the elimination of carriers.

Anti-toxin is supplied free to Medical Practitioners for use in cases of Diphtheria.

SCARLET FEVER.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified (excluding Institutional cases) was 61 as compared with 66 for 1932 and is again below the average of the previous ten years. 31 of the cases occurred in the last quarter of the year.

Of the cases notified, 49 were removed to hospital and 12 nursed at home. There was 1 return case during the year, the period between the discharge of the first case and the notification of the second was 11 days.

ENTERIC FEVER.

No cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year.

MEASLES.

Measles is not notifiable under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, but the cases amongst children of school age are notified to the Department by the Head Teachers of Schools.

Home visitation of cases of measles is carried out by the nurses of the District Nursing Association when thought desirable.

Arrangements are in force whereby if the conditions are unsuitable for home nursing, cases can be admitted into the Bow Arrow Hospital.

There has been no particular incidence of this disease during the year.

CANCER.

The number of deaths from cancer was **33**, being **11.66** per cent. of the total deaths as compared with :—

1932	...	49 deaths	17.3 per cent. of total deaths.
1931	...	27 „	10.97 „ „ „ „
1930	...	28 „	12.33 „ „ „ „
1929	...	30 „	9.64 „ „ „ „
1928	...	30 „	11.58 „ „ „ „

INFLUENZA.

The incidence of influenza during the year was again of a mild type and calls for no special mention.

DISINFECTION.

Upon removal of cases of infectious diseases to Hospital or upon recovery of cases nursed at home, the rooms are disinfected with formalin and the bedding removed for steam disinfection.

Disinfection is also carried out after death from tuberculosis and if requested after death from cancer.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Diphtheria	26	1	...	2	1	2	6	7	2	5	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	61	1	...	1	5	3	32	10	2	3	4	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	17	1	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	5	4	2	1
Erysipelas	8	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	2	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	73	1	1	3	6	5	45	10	2	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Of the cases notified, 25 cases of Diphtheria and 49 cases of Scarlet Fever were removed to Hospital.

In addition, the following have been notified from various Institutions :—

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE.	Total Deaths	Under 1 year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	18	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	6	6
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following table gives details of the cases notified and deaths occurring during the year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1—5	....	1	....	1	....	1	....	....
5—10	....	....	....	1	....	....	....	....
10—15	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—20	1	....	1	....	....	....	....	....
20—25	1	3	1	....	1	3	....	....
25—35	4	8	1	1	2	4	1	....
35—45	5	2	....	....	3	1	....	....
45—55	7	....	....	....	2	....	1	....
55—65	2	....	....	....	3	1	....	....
65 and upwards	1	....	....	....	1	....	....	....
Totals	21	14	3	3	12	10	2	....

23 of the 41 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, and 13 cases notified previous to 1933 were removed to Sanatoria for treatment during the year.

Previous notification of the disease was not received with regard to three of the deaths occurring during the year.

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924, returns have to be made quarterly to the County Medical Officer, giving a summary of the Tuberculosis Register for the District.

The following is a statement of the number of cases on the Register at the beginning and end of the year :—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Number on Register at commencement of Year	111	87	28	32	258
Number on Register at end of Year	115	88	26	33	262

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT THE CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.

(*a*) Children attending at beginning of 1933, ages at beginning of year :—

	Under 3 mos.	3-6 mos.	6-9 mos.	9-12 mos.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Totals for each day
Tuesday	11	12	15	9	16	22	10	4	99
Thursday	12	23	17	3	23	15	15	6	114
Friday	5	5	5	6	25	15	11	10	82
Totals	28	40	37	18	64	52	36	20	295

(*b*) New entrants, ages at entry :—

	Under 3 mos.	3-6 mos.	6-9 mos.	9-12 mos.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Totals for each day
Tuesday	72	9	8	7	7	15	9	6	133
Thursday	55	16	7	4	7	17	16	5	127
Friday	72	12	12	7	16	21	17	7	164
Totals	199	37	27	18	30	53	42	18	424

(*c*) Children attending at beginning of 1934, ages at beginning of year :—

	Under 3 mos.	3-6 mos.	6-9 mos.	9-12 mos.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	Totals for each day
Tuesday	6	14	7	5	31	15	15	7	100
Thursday	7	11	7	7	29	18	18	12	109
Friday	4	21	13	9	21	25	18	12	123
Totals	17	46	27	21	81	58	51	31	332

Number of mothers attending the Clinics, 636.

Total attendances of mothers, 7,997.

Of the number of infants registered, 199 were under the age of three months on registration.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Total number of cases on register during year	158
Number of new cases	128
Number of Clinics held	44
Total number of attendances	455
Average attendance per clinic	10.3

Of the 128 new cases who attended in 1933 :—

55 were normal.
29 were abnormal.
36 showed other conditions requiring treatment.
8 were not pregnant.

Analysis of abnormal ante-natal cases :—

Contracted Pelvis	8
Asymmetrical pelvis and scoliosis	1
Twins	1
Breech	4
Retroverted gravid uterus	1
Hydramnious with albuminuria	1
Toxaemias :—	
Albuminuria	4
Persistent vomiting	3
Miscarriage and premature stillbirths	4
Antepartum haemorrhage	2

Other conditions requiring treatment :—

Caries and pyorrhoea	24
Varicose veins	13
Anaemia	1
Tuberculosis	1
Cystitis	1
Vaginitis	1
Liver tumour	1
Cardiac disease	1

MATERNITY HOME.

Arrangements are made for the admission of cases into the British Home for Mothers and Babies, Woolwich, and financial assistance is given according to scale of income.

No cases were admitted during the year.

PUERPERAL FEVER and PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS 1926.

Arrangements have been made under these regulations for :—

(*a*) The admission of cases requiring hospital treatment into the North Western Hospital of the London County Council.

(*b*) The services of an obstetric consultant when required.

(*c*) The Dartford District Nursing Association to undertake home nursing where hospital treatment is not necessary.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified during the year.

The investigation of maternal deaths is undertaken by the County Medical Officer.

TREATMENT OF SQUINT.

Arrangements have been made for the treatment of squint in children under school age by the School Ophthalmic Surgeon. Three cases were referred for treatment during the year.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.

A scheme of co-operation with the Kent County Council for the Orthopædic Treatment of children under school age is in operation. During the year one child was treated.

DENTAL TREATMENT TO MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

Two children and one mother have been granted assistance in accordance with the Council's Scheme for dental treatment during the year.

CONVALESCENT HOME.

No children were sent to the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution Home at Broadstairs during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during the year. Children requiring treatment for Ophthalmia Neonatorum can be received into St. Margaret's Hospital by arrangement with the London County Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1925.

No action has had to be taken with regard to cases of Tuberculosis in persons connected with the milk trade.

SECTION 62 PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1925.

No action has been taken during the year with regard to compulsory removal of cases of Tuberculosis under this section.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Kent County Council is the Authority dealing with this group of diseases.

A local Clinic is held by the County Council at the King Edward Avenue Hospital.

MILK (MOTHERS AND CHILDREN) ORDERS 1919 and 1921.

During the year 1933 the amount of milk supplied under these Orders was:

13,352 pints free.
257 pints half price.
166 lb. dried milk free.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908, Part 1 and CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1932.

The main object of the above is to secure that any child under nine years of age maintained "for reward" shall be notified to the Local Authority in order that supervision of the home conditions and the health of the child can be carried out.

Miss A. A. Brimble, Health Visitor, carries out the duties of Infant Protection Officer.

Number of visits paid to foster children during the year	44
Number of foster mothers on register at end of year	19
Number of foster children on register at end of year	22

HOME VISITATION.

VISITS OF HEALTH VISITORS.

The following visits were paid by your Health Visitors during the year;

Number of new-born infants visited	386
Number of visits to infants under 1 year	2,298
Number of children on register over one year ...	1,381
Number of visits to children over one year	3,598
Total visits	5,896

In addition to these visits the following have been paid :—

Ante-Natal visits (to 120 individual cases)	336
Death enquiries	11

VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

It gives me pleasure to again register my appreciation of the work of the lady voluntary workers at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. They attend regularly at the centre and make themselves responsible for the keeping of the registers and organise the social events in connection with this work.

I wish to tender thanks, on behalf of the Council, to the donors of prizes for the Annual Baby Show and the Mothers' Social Evening and to all who assisted in making these events a success.

Appended hereto are the following :—

(1). Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

(2). Report on the Inspection of Factories, Workshops, etc., in the District.

I am, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant,

T. FARTHING,

Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to report as follows on the Sanitary Inspection, etc., of the Borough for the year 1933 :—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE WORK.

Cases investigated	107
Premises disinfected (Tuberculosis)	38
,, ,, (other infectious diseases)	85
Sets of bedding disinfected	152

HOUSING (CONSOLIDATED) REGULATIONS 1925.

Number of houses systematically inspected and recorded	82
Notices re defects served on Owners :—	
Preliminary—Served 63 : Complied with 71 : in hand, Dec. 31st	48
Statutory— ,, 23 : ,, ,, 24 : ,, ,,	None
Houses put in order during year including those dealt with under Section 19, Housing Act, 1930	76

ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO OTHER NUISANCES FOUND.

Preliminary Notices served, 186 : complied with 187 : in hand, Dec. 31	35
Statutory Notices ,, 11 : ,, ,, 10 : ,, ,,	1

COMPLAINTS.

277 complaints of Nuisances, etc., have been received during the year and duly investigated and dealt with.

DRAINAGE WORK.

Number of Drains tested by water— New Buildings	1406
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Existing Buildings and Works under notice	44
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, smoke—New Buildings	286
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, Existing Buildings and Works under notice	11
Total number of drains tested during year	1747
Number of drains cleared by the Department	149

Of the drains cleared by the department 44 were in connection with the Council houses and various other properties owned by the Council.

INSPECTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH FOOD SUPPLY.

Slaughterhouses.

Number on Register—Licensed	None
Registered	2
Number of Inspections	249

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, 1926

Registered Purveyors (Wholesale)	5
,, ,, (Retail)	38
(Including 10 dealers registered for the sale of sterilised milk in unopened bottles)	
Number of Cowsheds ... ... 6 ... Inspections	33
Number of Dairies ... ... 9 ... Inspections	51
Number of Milkshops ... 3 ... Inspections	12
Number of contraventions of the Order dealt with	2

MILK SAMPLES FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 4 samples were taken from the milk producers in the district for examination for tuberculosis, with the following results :—

Negative	4
Evidence of Tuberculosis found	None

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS.

The following licences were in force during the year :—

Certified (supplementary dealers)		1
Grade A (T.T.)	Bottling and Dealers	3
	Dealers only	3
	Supplementary Dealers	1
Grade A.	Supplementary Dealers	1
Pasteurised.	Supplementary Dealers	1
Number of samples taken during the year		11
Number not complying with the standard		3

Two of the samples not complying with the standard were from one dealer who then changed his source of supply.

OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Meat and other Food Inspections	248
Market Stall and Hawkers' Cart Inspections	90
Fried Fish Shop Inspections	51
Bakehouse Inspections	28

UNSOUND FOOD DEALT WITH AND DESTROYED.

The total quantity of unsound food surrendered and destroyed during the year was 7 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs., details of which are as follows :—

Beef.—3 qr. 18 lbs.
Pork.—1 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lbs
Organs.—1 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb. including 4 pigs' plucks, and 6 beasts' livers.
Fish.—3 cwts.
Other Foods.—1 qr. 20 lbs., including 44 lbs. of tinned goods

No seizures of food were made during the year. The carcases, etc., destroyed were surrendered on request after inspection.

The mutual Insurance Schemes of the Dartford, Sevenoaks, and Rochester Cattle Markets continue to be of great assistance in dealing with the home killed meat supply of the district. Under these schemes, on the payment of a premium by both buyer and seller compensation is granted, on the certificate of the Sanitary Inspector, for diseased carcases or portions of carcases.

LODGING HOUSES ETC.

Number of Lodging Houses on Register	1
,, ,, Houses let in Lodgings on Register	2
,, ,, Inspections	17

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number of Fried Fish Shops on Register	10
,, ,, Rag and Bone Dealers	2
,, ,, Tanyards	1
,, ,, Knacker's Yards	1
,, ,, Inspections	69

OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Stableyards, Piggeries, etc., Inspected	82
Inspections re Tents, Vans, and Sheds Bye-Laws	16
Inspections of Cinemas	4
Re-inspections and visits to Work in progress	1,294
Visits re Applications for Council Houses	554

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

During the year 20 inspections were made under the above. Advice was given with regard to dealing with these pests and in certain cases poison baits were laid down with good results. Where considered necessary the drains of the premises were tested for defects.

SMOKE NUISANCES.

During the year 62 observations have been taken of the smoke emitted by the chimneys in the various works, and one case of black smoke nuisance has been dealt with.

NUISANCES REMEDIED AND WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE VARIOUS NOTICES DURING THE YEAR.

Roofs repaired	50
Eaves, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired and renewed	28
External brickwork repaired, re-pointed or rendered	48
Damp walls remedied	42

House or part of house cleansed	48
Interior walls and ceilings repaired	68
Ventilation improved	6
Broken sash cords replaced	60
Defective floors and other woodwork repaired or renewed	67
Separate water supply (in place of common tap) provided	29
Defects in connection with water supply remedied	7
Cooking apparatus repaired or renewed	24
Washing coppers repaired or renewed	16
Sink, etc., waste pipes repaired or renewed	8
New sinks provided	29
Yard paving repaired or renewed	27
Gully fenders repaired or renewed	11
Houses previously cesspool drained, connected to sewer	1
Drains re-constructed (No. of houses)	1
Defective drains repaired	22
Drains cleared (by owners)	175
Defective vent shafts or fresh air inlets repaired or renewed	8
New manholes provided	14
W.C.'s repaired	33
New W.C.'s provided	1
Defective ashbins renewed	55
Ashbins substituted for open ashpits	32
Overcrowding abated	1
Nuisances from the keeping of animals remedied	5
Accumulations of manure or offensive refuse removed	9
Smoke nuisances dealt with	1
Other nuisances abated	31

I am, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Your Obedient Servant,

WALTER E. BALCHIN,

Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES
Including Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	Inspection	Defects found	Defects remedied
Factories (including Factory laundries)	15	...	...
Workshops (including Workshop laundries)	63	3	...
Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises)	18	3	...
Total	96	6	...

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses	2	1	...	...
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	...
Want of Ventilation	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...
Want of Drainage of floors	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	1	1	...	...
Sanitary accommodation (Insufficient	2	3	...	...
Sanitary accommodation Unsuitable or defective	2	2	...	...
Sanitary accommodation Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (S.101).	...	...	...	...
Other offences	...	...	...	...
Total	7	7	...	...

HOME WORK.

No. of Lists received 6. Inspections 7.

REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of the Year.	Number.
Bakehouses*	4
Dressmakers and Milliners	6
Boot Repairers	12
Tailors	4
Cycle and Motor Repairers	11
Joiners and Carpenters	8
Laundries	1
Other Workshops	21
Total	67

*There are also 9 Factory Bakehouses in the District.